



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEACH ADVISORY

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) announces that the Beach Water Quality Monitoring Program, which evaluates weekly water quality at popular swimming beaches throughout the Territory by sampling for Enterococci, Bacteria and Turbidity, which is a measure of water clarity, advises the public of the following:

DPNR performed water quality analysis at 27 designated beaches throughout the Territory during the week of August 24 – 28, 2020. **THE FOLLOWING BEACHES MEET WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND ARE SAFE FOR SWIMMING OR FISHING:**

St. Croix		
Stony Ground	Pelican Cove (Comorant)	Chenay Bay
Dorsch Beach	Cramer's Park	Shoy's
Frederiksted Public Beach	Buccaneer	Halfpenny Beach
Rainbow Beach	Cane Bay	Princess (Condo Row)
New Fort (Ft. Louise Augusta)	Sprat Hall	

St. Thomas		
Lindbergh Bay	Sapphire Beach	Lindquist Beach
Brewer's Bay	Vessup Bay	Water Bay
Hull Bay	Bluebeard's Beach	Frenchman's Bay
Magen's Bay	Secret Harbor	
Coki Point	Bolongo Bay	

Please Note: Samples were not collected at the following beaches:

- *Columbus Landing, Grapetree Bay, and Protestant Cay on St. Croix due to the high concentration of Sargassum Seaweed impacting the nearshore*
- *St. John Beaches (Cruz Bay, Oppenheimer, Johnson Bay, Great Cruz Bay, and Frank Bay) due to Covid issues at the laboratory*

Therefore, the water quality at these beaches are unknown.

All persons should also be aware that storm water runoff may also contain contaminants or pollutants harmful to human health and therefore all persons should avoid areas of storm water runoff (i.e. guts, puddles, and drainage basins) or if any area appears discolored or has foul odors. DPNR will continue to monitor the impacted areas and waters.

For additional information regarding water quality call the Division of Environmental Protection at 773-1082 in St. Croix or 774-3320 in St. Thomas.